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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/814,916	03/30/2004	Bela Kleiner		2890

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BELA KLEINER
2705 KINGS HIGHWAY 3D
BROOKLYN, NY 11229

EXAMINER

ANDERSON, REBECCA L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1626

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/12/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/814,916

Applicant(s)

KLEINER, BELA

Examiner

Rebecca L. Anderson

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 December 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-3 and 5-9 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-9 are currently pending in the instant application. Claims 1-3 and 5-9 are withdrawn from consideration as being for non-elected subject matter. Claim 4 is objected and rejected.

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election of Group VIII in the reply filed on 28 December 2006 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

The restriction is considered proper and is therefore FINAL.

Specification

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the abstract is too long. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

Claim Objections

Claim 4 is objected to as containing non-elected subject matter. Claim 4 presented only to the elected invention for search and examination would overcome this objection. To overcome this objection it is suggested that applicant delete "

;this gas mixture can be used as raw material or this gas mixture can be further reacted with oxygen giving homogeneous nitrogen dioxide that can be used as final product or this nitrogen dioxide can be dissolved in water (reacts with water) forming nitric acid;the generated gas mixture;nitrogen dioxide,nitric oxide can be separated into their individual components by introducing the gas mixture into water;nitrogen dioxide will react with water forming nitric acid and nitric oxide is collected over water and is ready for further use.

" from the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The claim is narrative in form and replete with indefinite and functional or operational language. The claim(s) must be in one sentence form only.

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Note the exemplary formats of a process claim: A process for preparing nitrogen dioxide, nitric oxide and calcium ascorbate or calcium isoascorbate comprising reacting aqueous ascorbic acid solution or isoascorbic acid solution together with aqueous calcium nitrite solution in a chemical system....; A process for preparing nitrogen dioxide, nitric oxide and calcium ascorbate or calcium isoascorbate consisting of reacting aqueous ascorbic acid solution or isoascorbic acid solution together with aqueous calcium nitrite solution in a chemical system....., A process for preparing nitrogen dioxide, nitric oxide and calcium ascorbate or calcium isoascorbate wherein aqueous ascorbic acid solution or isoascorbic acid solution is reacted with aqueous calcium nitrite solution in a chemical system..., etc. Additionally, claim 4 is rejected, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps, such omission amounting to a gap between the steps. See MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted steps are: how aqueous ascorbic acid solution or isoascorbic acid solution is reacted with aqueous calcium nitrite solution, i.e. on the surface of the water medium; temperature, as page 2 states that the reactant is temperature sensitive as well as the product of calcium ascorbate, etc. Lastly, the phrase "chemical system" is considered indefinite as it is unclear what is considered as the "chemical system", is it other reactants/reagents or solvents, does it require a specific reaction vessel, does it require a specific temperature?. It is suggested that claim 4 be amended to not be narrative in form, to delete indefinite language and to include essential reaction steps.

Conclusion


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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Rebecca L. Anderson whose telephone number is (571) 272-0696. Mrs. Anderson can normally be reached Monday through Friday 5:30AM to 2:00PM.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Mr. Joseph K. McKane, can be reached at (571) 272-0699.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Rebecca Anderson
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1626, Group 1620
Technology Center 1600

6 March 2007